

Listing of the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A valve assembly comprising:
a valve body defining an inlet, a controlled outlet and a passageway therebetween;
a valve stop and a valve seat supported within said valve body in axial alignment with said controlled outlet; and
a plunger reciprocable between the valve stop and the valve seat to open and close said controlled outlet, said plunger further including a pocket, and a central bore having an insert molded therein to define a stop-cushion at an end proximal the valve stop and a valve tip at an end proximal the valve seat, wherein a portion of the valve stop is disposed within the pocket.

2. (Original) The valve assembly of claim 1, wherein the stop cushion is dome-shaped.

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~evaporative control~~ valve assembly of claim 1, wherein the valve stop includes a plunger-impact surface formed of a non-conductive material.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~evaporative control~~ valve assembly of claim 1, wherein the valve stop includes a non-conductive insert received in an end proximal the plunger.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~evaporative control~~ valve assembly of claim 1, wherein said plunger includes a pocket formed in an end proximal the valve stop and a spring received ~~with~~ within the pocket that urges the plunger toward the valve seat to close the passageway.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~evaporative control~~ valve assembly of claim 4 5, wherein the spring has an outer diameter at least 50% ~~greater than~~ of the diameter of the pocket.

7. (Original) The evaporative control valve assembly of claim 1, wherein a solenoid actuator is operable on said plunger to open and close said passageway.

AI 8. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a valve assembly having a plunger reciprocably moveable within a the valve assembly between a valve stop and a valve seat, the method comprising:

providing a conductive elongate plunger body having a central bore formed therein;

molding an insert within the plunger body to define a stop-cushion at an end proximal the valve stop and a valve tip proximal an end proximal the valve seat;

providing a bore in an end of the valve stop;

and press fitting a non-conductive insert into the bore of the valve stop.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (New) The valve assembly of claim 4, wherein the portion of the valve stop disposed within the pocket is at least a portion of the non-conductive insert.

11. (New) The valve assembly of claim 10 wherein the non-conductive insert has an annular shoulder for retaining a spring within the pocket of the plunger.

12. (New) The valve assembly of claim 11 wherein the pocket has a predetermined diameter and the spring has an outer diameter at least 50% of the diameter of the pocket.

13. (New) The valve assembly of claim 1 further comprises a solenoid assembly and a non-conductive insert, wherein the conductive bodies of the valve stop and the plunger are separated by an air gap for creating a path for magnetic flux travel when the solenoid assembly is energized.

14. (New) The valve assembly of claim 11, wherein the spring is mounted about the non-conductive insert.

A1